

AZ-040-1790-5
(Rev. 08/02)

Categorical Exclusion Documentation

CER Number: AZ410-2006-0011

Date: 11-30-2005

Applicant: Graham County Electric Coop./Duncan Valley Electric

Case File: AZA 17958

Location:

T. 8 S., R. 32 E.,
sec 30, NWSE;

Gila and Salt River Meridian, Arizona.

Project: Assignment ROW (AZA 17958)

DESCRIPTION: In November 2005, Graham County Electric Coop., filed application for assignment of existing linear row AZA 17958 located in Greenlee County, Arizona, to Duncan Valley Electric. There will be no change to the existing authorization. This will only be an ownership/name change

Categorical Exclusion No: 516 DM 6, Appendix 5, E. 9.

This states: "Renewals and assignments of leases, permits or rights-of-way where no additional rights are conveyed beyond those granted by the original authorizations."

The Proposed action conforms with the following Land-Use Plan: X YES NO

The proposed action conforms with the Safford District Resource Management Plan (RMP) and Record of Decision approved September 1992 and July 1994. According to page 22 of the RMP, "Rights-of-way, leases and permits will be considered on a case-by-case basis, in accordance with the decisions of this Resource Management Plan."

CHECKLIST

EXCEPTION APPLIES (YES/NO)

(1) Health & Safety	<u>NO</u>
(2) Unique Resources	<u>NO</u>
(3) Controversial	<u>NO</u>
(4) Risks	<u>NO</u>
(5) Precedent	<u>NO</u>

(6) Cumulative	<u>NO</u>
(7) Cultural & Historical	<u>NO</u>
(8) T.& E. Species	<u>NO</u>
(9) Violates Executive Orders 11988 or 11990	<u>NO</u>
(10) Violates Law	<u>NO</u>

Comments on the exceptions listed above:

An interdisciplinary team reviewed the proposal and found that none of the ten exceptions above apply. It was determined that there would be no adverse impact. The Safford Field Office specialists participated in the interdisciplinary team review:

Tim Goodman, Wildlife Biologist
 Dan McGrew, Archaeologist
 Richard White, Rangeland Management Specialist

Categorical Exclusion Review (CER)

Compliance and assignment of Responsibility: Ultimate responsibility for compliance with the terms and conditions of the right-of-way grant will be that of the right-of-way holder. It will be our responsibility to ensure that these terms and conditions developed by BLM staff are met.

Monitoring and assignment of Responsibility: The Safford Field Office, primarily through the Lands Staff, will be responsible for monitoring the right-of-way to ensure that the BLM-developed terms and conditions are being met.

Stipulations:

1. Any cultural and/or paleontological resource (historic or prehistoric site or object) discovered by the holder, or any person working on his behalf, on Federal land shall be immediately reported to the authorized officer. Holder shall suspend all operations in the immediate area of such discovery until authorization to proceed is issued by the authorized officer. An evaluation of the discovery will be made by the authorized officer to determine appropriate actions to prevent the loss of significant cultural or scientific values. The holder will be responsible for the cost of evaluation and proper mitigation of impacts.
2. There is potential for the spread of noxious and invasive weeds from equipment contaminated with weed seed and/or biomass. To reduce this potential, the Safford field office BLM requires the following measures be taken: Duncan Valley Electric will thoroughly power wash and remove all vegetative material and soil before transporting

equipment to the construction site to help minimize the threat of spreading noxious and invasive weeds. This includes trucks, trailers, and all other machinery. The holder shall be responsible for weed control on disturbed areas within the limits of the right-of-way or construction site. The holder is responsible for consultation with the authorized officer and local authorities for implementing acceptable weed treatment methods. Any use of chemical treatments will abide by all safety and application guidelines as listed on the product label and Material Data Safety Sheet (MSDS). Any reclamation efforts requiring seeding will be done with certified, weed-free native seed.

I have reviewed the proposed action using the Categorical Exclusion Review (CER) process described in BLM Manual H-1790-1 pages II-1 and II-2 and appendix 4. The proposed action does not seem to conflict with major land-use plans and will not have major adverse impacts on other resources. Therefore, it does not represent an exception, and is categorically excluded from further environmental review.

Prepared by: /s/ Melissa D. Warren Date: 12/12/2005
Land Law Examiner

Reviewed by: /s/ Tim Goodman Date: 12/12/2005
Planning and Environmental Coordinator

Approved by: /s/ Richard White for Thomas Schnell Date: 12/12/2005
Assistant Field Office Manager for Resource Use and Protection

